

Message Text

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65

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCA-01 AGR-10

AID-05 EB-07 USIA-15 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 /119 W

----- 100022

R 130703Z MAY 76

FM AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7961

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS JERUSALEM 0645

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, SREF, IS, JO, UNRWA

SUBJ: UNRWA SHORT OF FLOUR, CUTS RATIONS

1. IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS UNRWA DIRECTOR FOR WEST BANK, DR. MOHAMMAD SHARIF, HAS TOLD US OF SEVERE FLOUR SHORTAGE, FORCING UNRWA TO HALVE NORMAL MONTHLY RATION DISTRIBUTION IN MAY. SAME SITUATION PROBABLY WILL EXIST JUNE AS WELL, AS ADDITIONAL SHIPMENTS NOT ANTICIPATED BEFORE END JUNE AND PERHAPS NOT UNTIL JULY. SUGAR ALSO SHORT BUT ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES EXPECTED SOON. ONLY THIRD OF NORMAL SUGAR RATION AVAILABLE FOR MAY DISTRIBUTION.

2. DR. SHARIF HAS EXPLAINED THAT FLOUR SHORTAGE DUE TO FACT CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND, REDUCED OR ELIMINATED BY US AND OTHERS IN RECENT YEARS, NOW SATISFY ONLY ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF UNRWA REQUIREMENTS, REMAINDER MUST BE PURCHASED, AND UNRWA CASH SHORTAGE PREVENTED SUFFICIENT PURCHASES IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH TO MEET CURRENT REQUIREMENTS.

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WITH LARGE BUDGET DEFICITS, PROBLEM LIKELY TO PERSIST

IN COMING MONTHS.

3. LOCAL ARABIC PRESS CARRIED TEXT OF UNRWA PRESS RELEASE ON BACKGROUND OF PROBLEM MAY 9. DR. SHARIF TOLD US RELEASE ISSUED IN EFFORT MITIGATE ANTICIPATED PROBLEMS IN CONNECTION RATION DISTRIBUTION. DESPITE HIS EFFORTS, HOWEVER, RATIONS REFUSED AS PROTEST BY MOST RECIPIENTS EXCEPT IN EAST JERUSALEM. SIMILAR ACTION SOMETIMES TAKEN IN PAST WHEN SHORT RATIONS OFFERED. SHARIF SAID NO TROUBLE HAS ENSUED, AND HE KEEPING IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH REGIONAL OFFICERS. SHORT RATIONS DO CAUSE HARDSHIP IN MANY CASES, HE SAID, AS MOST RECIPIENTS HAVE LARGE FAMILIES AND, EVEN IF EMPLOYED, DO NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT INCOME TO COVER SUBSTANTIAL NEEDS. ESPECIALLY IN LIGHT CONTINUING INFLATION AND COST INCREASES.

NEWLIN

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 13 MAY 1976
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

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TAGS: PINS, SREF, IS, JO, UNRWA
To: STATE
Type: TE
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